Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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DA 14-499

Released: April 14, 2014

COMMENTS INVITED ON APPLICATION OF AT&T SERVICES, INC. ON BEHALF OF SNET AMERICA, INC. D/B/A AT&T LONG DISTANCE EAST TO DISCONTINUE DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES

WC Docket No. 14-60 Comp. Pol. File No. 1151

Comments Due: April 29, 2014

Section 214 Application

Applicant: AT&T Services, Inc. on behalf of SNET America, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Long Distance East

On April 1, 2014, AT&T Services Inc. (AT&T or Applicant) filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC or Commission) on behalf of its affiliate, SNET America, Inc. d/b/a AT&T Long Distance East (SAI or Applicant), located at 84 Deerfield Lane, Room C2C, Meriden, CT 06450 and 310 Orange Street, Room 6-128, New Haven, CT 06510, requesting authority, under section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 214, and section 63.71 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 63.71, to discontinue a certain domestic telecommunications service throughout the United States, including the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands and American Samoa (Service Areas).

AT&T indicates that SAI currently offers long distance calling card service in the Service Areas. AT&T explains that SAI's long distance calling card service is a long distance travel card that allows users to place interstate calls by dialing a company-provided toll-free access code or number. AT&T states, however, that SAI plans to discontinue this service and no longer offer it in the Service Areas on or after May 15, 2014, subject to Commission authorization. AT&T maintains that the public convenience and necessity will not be impaired by the proposed discontinuance because the service is declining in the market as mobile phones have, in most cases, obviated the need for calling card services. AT&T adds that, in addition to mobile phones, there are other alternatives to calling card services in the market such as pre-paid calling cards and alternate billing services. AT&T indicates that SAI mailed written notice of the proposed discontinuance to its consumer calling card users on March 27, 2014 and to its business calling card users on March 28, 2014. AT&T asserts that SAI is considered a non-dominant carrier with respect to the affected service.

In accordance with section 63.71(c) of the Commission's rules, AT&T's application will be deemed to be granted automatically on the 31st day after the release date of this public notice, unless the Commission notifies AT&T that the grant will not be automatically effective. In the application, AT&T indicates that SAI plans to discontinue long distance calling card service and no longer offer it in the Service Areas on or after May 15, 2014, subject to Commission authorization. Accordingly, pursuant to section 63.71(c) and the terms of the application, absent further Commission action, SAI may discontinue long distance calling card service and no longer offer it in the Service Areas on or after **May 15, 2014**. The Commission normally will authorize proposed discontinuances of service unless it is shown that

customers or other end users would be unable to receive service or a reasonable substitute from another carrier, or that the public convenience and necessity would be otherwise adversely affected.

Comments objecting to this application must be filed with the Commission on or before **April 29, 2014**. Such comments should refer to **WC Docket No. 14-60 and Comp. Pol. File No. 1151**. Comments should include specific information about the impact of this proposed discontinuance on the commenter, including any inability to acquire reasonable substitute service. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by filing paper copies. *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998). Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the Web site for submitting comments. Generally, only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or rulemaking number.

Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission. All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554. The filing hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of <u>before</u> entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554.

Two copies of the comments should also be sent to the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-C140, Washington, D.C. 20554, Attention: Carmell Weathers. In addition, comments should be served upon the Applicant. Commenters are also requested to fax their comments to the FCC at (202) 418-1413, Attention: Carmell Weathers.

This proceeding is considered a "permit but disclose" proceeding for purposes of the Commission's ex parte rules. Persons making ex parte presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral ex parte presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the ex parte presentation was made. and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter's written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during ex parte meetings are deemed to be written ex parte presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written ex parte presentations and memoranda summarizing oral ex parte presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that

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¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 et seq.

proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (*e.g.*, .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (tty).

For further information, contact Carmell Weathers, (202) 418-2325 (voice), Carmell.Weathers@fcc.gov, or Kimberly Jackson, (202) 418-7393 (voice), Kimberly.Jackson@fcc.gov, of the Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau. The tty number is (202) 418-0484. For further information on procedures regarding section 214 please visit http://www.fcc.gov/wcb/cpd/other_adjud.